

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the above-captioned patent application. Claims 5, 8, 11, 16, and 19 were withdrawn in the Response to Election of Species Requirement electronically filed on October 5, 2006 and remain withdrawn. Claims 1-4, 9, 14 and 17 have been amended.

Claims 1-3, 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,193,711 to Hirata et al. (hereinafter "Hirata"). Claims 1-5, 8-11 and 14-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirata. Claims 6, 7, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirata in view of U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2005/0053737 to Raymond et al. (hereinafter "Raymond").

Each of Hirata's disclosed label embodiments have a bottom wall section 5 that occupies a portion of the mold cavity corresponding to the bottom wall of the associated container. Independent claims 1, 9 and 17 have been amended to distinguish over such an arrangement. For example, claim 1 recites, among other things, "the plastic-receiving space including a disk-like portion through which molten plastic flows generally radially outwardly and an annular portion into which molten plastic flows after exiting the disk-like portion to create a sidewall of the molded container, wherein the image-carrying sheet is situated only in the annular portion of the plastic-receiving space and no part of the image-carrying sheet is situated in the disk-like portion of the plastic-receiving space." Claim 9 recites, among other things, "the plastic-receiving space comprising a horizontal disk-like portion through which molten plastic flows generally radially outwardly and an annular portion into which molten plastic flows after exiting the horizontal disk-like portion to create a sidewall of the molded container, wherein the image-carrying sheet is situated in the annular portion and no part of the image-carrying sheet is situated in the horizontal disk-like portion of the plastic-receiving space." Claim 17 recites, among other things, that "the lower disk-like portion of the plastic-receiving space corresponds to a bottom wall of the molded container and no part of the image-carrying sheet is situated in the lower disk-like portion of the plastic-receiving space." The amendments to dependent claims 2-4 and 14 were made to secure antecedent basis with the amendments made to the associated independent claims.

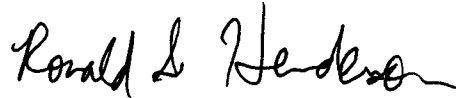
In light of the amendments made to independent claims 1, 9 and 17 herein, claims 1-20 are believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. In

the event that there are any questions related to this paper or to the application in general, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (317) 231-7341.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and that shortages in fees, if any, be charged to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 10-0435, with reference to our file 3044-73785.

Respectfully submitted,

BARNES & THORNBURG LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald S. Henderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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